

State: No unemployment benefits without posting resume

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People filing for unemployment insurance in Illinois will no longer be able to receive benefits unless they post a resume to the state's job search site.

The Illinois Department of Employment Security announced it is stepping up enforcement of an existing legal requirement that individuals actively seek employment to be eligible for unemployment benefits.

Job seekers who file unemployment claims on or after Sunday (July 16, 2016) must upload or create at least one resume to IllinoisJobLink.com before they can receive payment. People already receiving benefits don't have to register again.

As it is now, 60 percent of unemployment claims filed with IDES do not include a completed registration for employment services, according to the

The change is meant to help the unemployed find a new job more quickly, IDES said. There are 180,000 job openings on IllinoisJobLink, a job search engine that also includes information about hiring fairs and workshops.

"In the past, the unemployment benefits application was separate from the work registration requirement," IDES director Jeff Mays said in a release. "Now, we are tying these two processes together to help expedite the hiring process. Registering for employment services with a work-history and list of skills will help individuals re-enter the workforce."

IDES received 10,239 applications for unemployment benefits over the week ended July 9.

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